

Women in Private Equity: A Preqin Special Report

March 2014

Women in Private Equity: Geography

As of March 2014, private equity firms based in Asia have the highest proportion of women in senior roles, with an average of 11.8% of high-level roles held by women, as shown in Fig. 1. This is, however, a notable fall from 2013 when 12.8% of women in Asia held senior positions. The average proportion of senior positions held by women in North America- and Europe-based private equity firms is 11.0% and 9.7% respectively. North America saw a rise from 2013 when women held 10.3% of senior roles.

Women in Private Equity: Strategy

The primary investment strategy with the highest proportion of women employed in senior roles is real estate, with an average of 12.8%, as shown in Fig. 2. Real estate and infrastructure saw a slight rise in the proportion of women employed in senior roles, up from 11.3% and 10.5% respectively in 2013. Women account for 11.2% of senior roles in venture capital firms while buyout firms have the lowest percentage of women in senior roles, with an average of 9.0%, though it should be noted that this strategy is the only one to have seen a steady increase in the last two years.

Women in Private Equity: Firm Size

In firms with five or fewer people, women in senior positions account for 8.4% of senior employees. These firms have seen a decrease over the last two years in the ratio of women employed at higher levels. This figure increases as the number of employees at each firm rises, as shown in Fig. 3. At firms with six to ten employees, women account for 11.8% of senior positions. Women account for 11.5% of high-level employees at private equity firms with 11 to 20 staff members, which is an increase on 2012 and 2013. Firms with 21 or more employees have the highest proportion of senior female staff (11.9%).

Conclusion

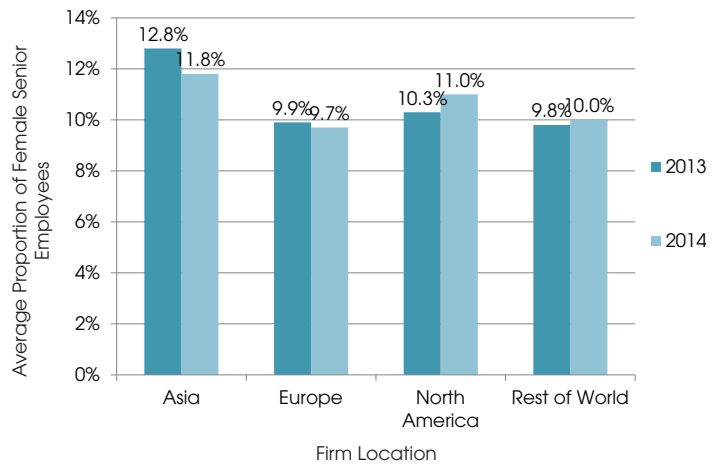
Collectively, though these statistics do highlight some improvements in the levels of female representation in the industry, the overall proportion of leadership roles that women occupy in private equity is still notably low. Indeed, it is an issue that has been acknowledged by the industry and organizations across the world are actively working to push for change.

Data Source:

The data in this factsheet is sourced from Preqin's online databases which features profiles of over 7,200 private equity fund managers, including full employee and contact details.

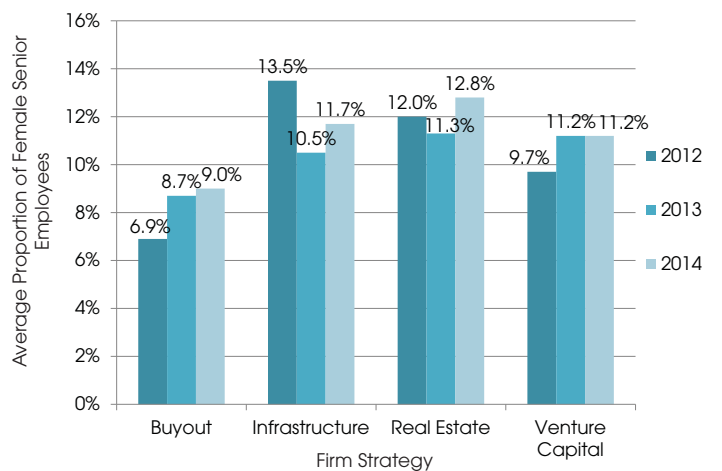
For more information, please visit www.preqin.com or email info@preqin.com

Fig. 1: Female Senior Employees as Proportion of Total Number of Senior Employees by Firm Location, 2013 - 2014



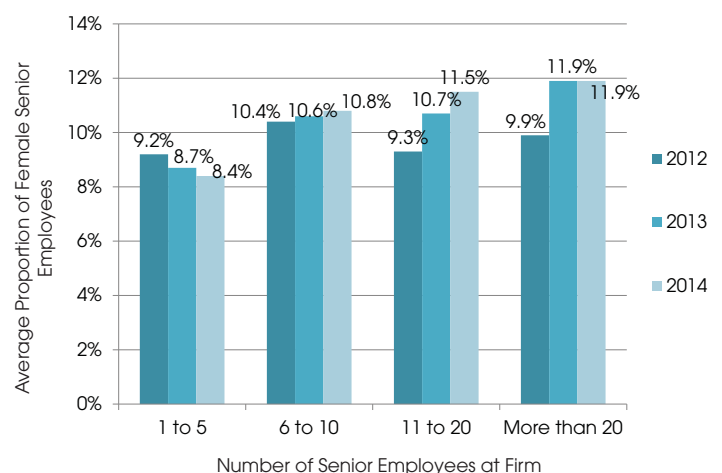
Source: Preqin

Fig. 2: Female Senior Employees as Proportion of Total Number of Senior Employees by Firm Strategy, 2012 - 2014



Source: Preqin

Fig. 3: Female Senior Employees as Proportion of Total Number of Senior Employees, 2012 - 2014



Source: Preqin